

Garg 2001-0526DIV3

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. - 30. *cancelled*

31. *(currently amended)* A method of providing message notification in a telephone network having a voicemail server, said method comprising:

providing a pair of unique ID numbers associated with message status, defined as including a first unique ID number and a second unique ID number, and

responding to a customer premise equipment (CPE) device to transmit said the first unique ID number according to the presence or absence of a message in said voicemail server and the second unique ID number in the absence of a message in said voicemail server.

32. *cancelled*

33. *(currently amended)* The method of claim 31, further comprising:

providing multiple pairs of unique ID numbers for multiple mailboxes of said voicemail server, with a first unique ID of each pair associated with the presence of a voicemail message and a second unique ID of each pair associated with the absence of a voicemail message, and

responding to the CPE device to transmit the first unique ID number of one of the multiple pairs of unique ID numbers associated with a mailbox having a voicemail message.

34. *(currently amended)* The method of claim 31, further comprising:

providing call-waiting in the telephone network, and

interrupting the responding step in response to an incoming call by detecting ~~one of a caller ID signal and an in-band call-waiting tone.~~